THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) No. Sir. However, a proposal to consider release of an amount of Rs. 7 crores towards corpus of a fund to North Eastern Council (NEC) which aims at bringing about qualitative improvements, innovations and required modifications and enhancement of infrastructure in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of education in the North Eastern Region is being examined.

**Proposals pending before AICTE**

1162. SHRI N. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news-item in the Tamil daily 'Dinamalar' dated 9th November, 1997 regarding proposals from twenty two New Self Financing Engineering Colleges of Tamil Nadu State is pending before the AICTE for sanction for the year 1997-98;

(b) if so, whether the said colleges have completed all the formalities laid down by the AICTE;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has considered all the 22 proposals for establishment of new self-financing Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu and has approved 13 out of them which have complied with all the requirements of the Council. The other 9 Engineering Colleges have not complied with the regulations and hence they have not been accorded approval for the session 1997-98. Thus no proposal regarding establishment of self-financing Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu for the session 97-98 is pending with the Council.

**Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu**

1163. SHRI N. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Engineering Colleges existing in Tamil Nadu and how many new engineering colleges have been sanctioned in the State for the year 1996-97;

(b) whether there is any competent authority existing at the State level to monitor the facilities and performances of the institutions,;

(c) if.so, the details thereof; and

(d) if noty-the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) There are 10S Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu, out of which 10 institutions have been approved for the session 1996-97. The facilities and performance of these institutions are monitored by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) through its Regional Committee at Chennai.

**Inauguration of Commercial Complex Near Qutub**

1164. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a commercial complex was inaugurated on 8th November, 1997 within 300 metres of a protected monument viz., the Qutub complex which is a world heritage site also;

(b) if so, where from the permission was granted; and